



STW

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 2876(203-3345)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Schechter et al.

Examiner: Alex B. Toy

Serial No.: 10/712,486

Group Art Unit: 3739

Filed: November 13, 2003

Dated: June 15, 2006

For: COMPRESSIBLE JAW CONFIGURATION WITH BIPOLAR RF  
OUTPUT ELECTRODES FOR SOFT TISSUE FUSION

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that copies of the references listed on pages 1-2 are not required since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 pursuant to 51 C.F.R. 1.98. Copies of foreign references and publications listed on page 3 of form PTO-1449 are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 15, 2006.

Dated: June 15, 2006

  
Edward C. Meagher

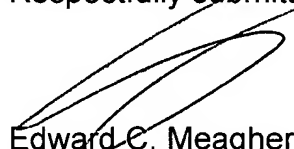
The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☐ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2).
  - ☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
  - ☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. **21-0550**.
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- ☒ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. **21-0550**.

[X] Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account **21-0550**. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. **21-0550** therefor.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward C. Meagher  
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Attorney for Applicant(s)

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ECM/gm



without references

Sheet

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Form PTO-1449

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)  
2876(203-3345)

Application Number  
10/712,486

Applicant  
Schechter et al.

Filing Date  
November 13, 2003

Group Art Number  
3739

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	4,655,216	Apr. 7, 1987	Tischer			
	5,219,354	Jun. 15, 1993	Choudhury et al.			
	5,601,601	Feb. 11, 1997	Tal et al.			
	5,961,514	Oct. 5, 1999	Long et al.			
	5,984,939	Nov. 16, 1999	Yoon			
	6,387,094	May 14, 2002	Eitenmuller			
	6,652,521	Nov. 25, 2003	Schulze			
	6,942,662	Sep. 13, 2005	Goble et al.			
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	US2002/0013583 A1	1/31/02	CAMRAN ET AL.			
	US2002/0099372 A1	7/25/02	SCHULZE ET AL.			
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	US2003/0220637 A1	11/27/03	CSABA TRUCKAI ET AL.			
	US2003/0236325 A1	12/25/03	BONORA			
Examiner				Date Considered		

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

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2876(203-3345)Application Number  
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Filing Date  
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3739**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Publication Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	US2004/0049185 A1	3/11/04	LATTERELL ET AL.			
	US2004/0116979 A1	6/17/04	TRUCKAI ET AL.			
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	US2005/0149151 A1	7/7/05	ORSZULAK ET AL.			
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3739

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	EP1486177A2	6/11/04	EP				
	EP0875209A1	11/4/98	EP				
	EP0986990A1	3/22/00	EP				
	EP1330991A1	7/30/03	EP				
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	DE 8712328	3/31/88	DE				
	WO 96/022056	7/25/96	PCT				
	WO 99/040861	8/19/99	PCT				
	WO 99/066850	12/29/99	PCT				
	WO 02/080796	10/17/02	PCT				
	WO 03/101311	12/11/03	PCT				
	WO 04/082495	9/30/04	PCT				

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	Int'l Search Report EP 05013463.4
	dated September 28, 2005
	Int'l Search Report EP 05019130.3
	dated October 18, 2005
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	Int'l Search Report EP 05021779.3
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	Int'l Search Report EP 05021937.7
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	Int'l Search Report - extended- EP 05021937.7
	dated March 6, 2006
	Int'l Search Report EP 05023017.6
	dated February 16, 2006
	Int'l Search Report EP 05021780.1
	dated February 9, 2006
	Int'l Search Report EP 06002279.5
	dated March 22, 2006

Examiner

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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.